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Office of Information and Privacy
Central Intelligence Agency
Washington, D.C. 20505

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Dear Sir or Madam:

This is an appeal pursuant to subsection (a)(6) of the Freedom of Information Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. 552).

On May 2, 1977, I received an acknowledgement from Gene F. Wilson, that my FOIA request dated April 18, 1977 had been received. Subsequently I have had numerous communications with your Agency concerning the length of time my request is taking for processing. On February 10, 1981, I appealed your denial to process my request but withdrew the appeal pursuant to a phone call from your agency. In all instances the reason given for the long processing delay is that "one component of the agency is heavily backlogged". My request is now going on five years without processing the final "component".

As you know the FOIA provides that an agency must make an initial determination of whether to comply with an FOIA request within ten working days of receiving the request. The Agency may take an additional ten working days in unusual circumstances. Since I have allowed almost five years for compliance, I am treating your agency's failure to respond as a denial. This letter is a formal appeal of that denial.

As provided for in the amended Act, I will expect to receive a reply to this appeal within twenty working days.

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